FIFTH DAY—*5th June 1928.*

The House re-assembled at 12 NOON.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

BY MESSRS. M. C. LINGEGOWDA, S. C. MALLIAH, H. C. DASAPPA, N. SIDDALINGA DEVARU, N. VEERARAJ URS, B. S. PUTTASWAMI, DHARMAPRAKASA D. BANUMIAH, MAHOMED SAIT, CHICKKALINGEGOWDA *alias* ANNE GOWDA, S. THIMMEGOWDA *alias* THAMMAIYA GOWDA, PATEL LINGE GOWDA, SANGANABASAPPA, K. N. PUTTANNAH, PATEL SUBBANNA, GURUKAR NANJAPPA, CHIKKEGOWDA, KAPINI GOWDA, CHENNAPPA (Mysore District).—

Q—21. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether they are aware that a book by the name of "Smruti Chandrika" was got printed by the Oriental Library, and if so, how many copies and when;

(2) whether it is a fact that a large number of copies have been found missing;

(3) if so, what is the number of copies missing and their value;

(4) if the answer to (2) is in the affirmative, what steps have the Government taken or propose to take against the persons responsible for the said loss to recover the value thereof.

DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.—

A.—21. (1) Yes. 1,000 copies.

No.	43	Samskara Kanda		Vol.	I	1914.
,,	44	Ahnika	,,	,,	II	1914.
,,	45	Vyavahara	,, I	,,	II	1915.
,,	48	,,	,, II	,,	III	1916.
,,	52	Sraddha	,,	,,	IV	1919.
,,	56	Asoucha	,,	,,	V	1921.

(2) No copies have been found missing. But in the year 1925, 78 copies of the first volume of this work were eaten by white ants.

(3) The value of the copies thus destroyed is Rs. 117 at the rate of Re. 1-8-0 a copy.

(4) Such disciplinary action as was considered necessary was taken to ensure better care of books.

Supplementary Questions and Answers.

Mr. S. C. Malliah.—

With reference to answer to Question (3), was there no proper arrangement made for preserving such valuable books?

Third Member of Council.—

Sometimes, damage is done in spite of proper arrangements.

Mr. S. C. Malliah.—

Is there no supervision over the proper maintenance of such books?

Third Member of Council.—

There is.

Mr. S. C. Malliah.—

If so, why should the books have been allowed to be eaten up by white ants?

Third Member of Council.—

It is a matter of common experience that damage is caused in spite of the very best arrangements.

Mr. S. C. Malliah.—

But is it possible that so many copies were eaten up in the course of one or two days?

Third Member of Council.—

It could happen in one night.

Mr. S. C. Malliah.—

Does it not show that the Library authorities are not exercising proper supervision?

Third Member of Council.—

It is not possible to examine everything every day. There may have been some negligence.

Mr. S. C. Malliah.—

What action has been taken against those responsible for the damage?

Third Member of Council.—

It is too small a matter for taking any action against the staff.

Mr. S. C. Malliah.—

If so, will not similar damage be given room for, again?

Third Member of Council.—

They will take care to prevent a recurrence.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

Is there any evidence to show that exactly 73 copies were attacked by white ants?

Third Member of Council.—

It is because evidence was available that such a statement has been made.

Mr. D. S. Mallappa.—

Were not even some pages out of these volumes left?

Third Member of Council.—

I have not seen them myself.

Mr. B. S. Puttaswami.—

Is it not true that no copies were spoiled by white ants?

Third Member of Council.—

There is no reason to doubt the information before us.

Mr. B. S. Puttaswami.—

Is it not the duty of the Government to enquire into the matter?

Third Member of Council.—

If you allege that the information before us is incorrect and furnish other information, necessary enquiries will be made.

Mr. S. Venkatesaiya.—

Have any copies been sold?

Third Member of Council.—

Some may have been.

Mr. S. Venkatesaiya.—

Is it not true that the present supply of books is enough to meet the demands of the next 2 centuries at least? And are the books not kept specially for the use of scholars who might occasionally apply for them and not intended actually for sale for profit?

Third Member of Council.—

Some purchase them also.

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Q.—22. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether the University Audit Board in their report for the year 1925-26 have pointed out any irregularities and defects in respect of the funds administered by the University;

(*b*) if so, what is the nature of the irregularities and the defects pointed out, and the amounts involved in them;

(*c*) whether the Government will be pleased to place the said audit report on the table of this House;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Government sanctioned a sum of Rs. 12,000 for the revision of the account branch of the University Office;